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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2006

DOR-01005

9 MAR 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Chief, FPL Group

ATTENTION:

IMS/FPLG

(C)

Declassified and Approved for Release
by the Central Intelligence Agency
Date: 2001

FROM:

Acting Chief, Operations Group

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

SUBJECT:

Nazi War Crimes Investigation

REFERENCE:

FPLG Memorandum dated 24 February 1983

1. An intensive search of the files and indices of the Directorate of Operations was conducted in order to determine:

A. If Frederick SCHWEND aka Wenchlas Turi was ever of operational interest to this Agency; and

B. The nature of SCHWEND's relationship with Klaus Barbie. (U)

2. The following information was surfaced in response to your request. (U)

3. Frederick SCHWEND aka: Wenchlas Turi

A. OG/EIB/NRS surfaced ☐ on Frederick SCHWEND, born 6 November 1906 in Boeckingen, Germany. SCHWEND worked for the German Intelligence Service (GIS) in various capacities beginning in 1940. In 1943 Heinrich Himmler ordered the manufacture of false currency with the intention of selling it in occupied Europe against gold, jewels, and other valuables. The valuables purchased were to be used to finance GIS operations. A Dr. Wendig was appointed head of this operation. After Wendig's death in 1944, SCHWEND assumed command of the operation, using the name Wendig.

B. As the Allied armies advanced in Germany, SCHWEND evacuated to Merano, Italy, with large quantities of the fake currency and valuables. He was arrested in May 1945

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and was interrogated in an effort to determine the whereabouts of other persons involved in the operation, as well as to discover the location of funds and valuables which constituted a threat to Allied security, as they could have been used to finance post-war anti-Allied activities. SCHWEND was used by OSS on this bird-dogging operation from July to November 1945, and later as a casual informant by the Munich station. The last report received from him was dated 28 August 1946.

C. In March 1947 SCHWEND and his wife travelled from Germany to Italy, and from there emigrated to Peru, where they were residing as of March 1973. SCHWEND, however, claims that he was secretly smuggled out of Germany by this Agency in 1946 and had subsequently worked for us for several years after; however, no information was surfaced to substantiate this claim.

D. OG/EIB/NRS also surfaced a dispatch, HPLA-8118, dated 24 June 1966, Subject: Results of interrogation of Pierre Robert Roesch. The following is a brief summary of Roesch's allegations and sworn statements against Frederick SCHWEND.

Roesch claimed to have lived in Lima with SCHWEND during the period April-July 1965, during which time he became privy to many of SCHWEND's activities, principally by helping him with his correspondence. Roesch alleged that SCHWEND was involved with a person named Klausa Altman aka Klaus Barbie to eliminate Victor Paz Estenssoro; that Altman visited SCHWEND's home while serving as a courier between La Paz and Lima to pick up recordings of conversations between SCHWEND and Paz Estenssoro and to pass on instructions. (S)

4. According to information provided this Directorate by DDA/IPD, there is no indication that the individual in reference has ever been the Subject of an FOIA/PA request.
(U)

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